

REMARKS

The courtesy of the Examiner in granting the undersigned attorney a personal interview on February 22, 2005 is gratefully acknowledged. During that interview, Claims 1 and 22 as previously presented were discussed in light of the Brizzolesi and Martin references. Also during the interview, the Examiner located the Universal Joint And Driveshaft Design Manual prior art that is cited in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement, and such prior art was discussed in light of Claims 1 and 22. As noted on the Examiner Interview Summary Record, it was agreed that the radial orientation of the openings formed in the bushings and the grooves formed in the outer surfaces of the bushings appeared to be distinguishable over the art of record.

New independent Claim 23 defines the invention as a coupling including a first yoke including a plurality of first yoke arms, a second yoke including a plurality of second yoke arms, and a body defining an axis. The body includes a first plurality of bushings connected to the plurality of first yoke arms, a second plurality of bushings connected to the plurality of second yoke arms, and a plurality of tensile members connecting the first plurality of bushings with the second plurality of bushings. Each of the first plurality of bushings is oriented generally radially relative to the axis of the body. Thus, as discussed during the interview, it is believed that independent Claim 23, and dependent Claims 24 through 30, are patentable over the art of record.

New independent Claim 31 defines the invention as a coupling including a first yoke including a plurality of first yoke arms, a second yoke including a plurality of second yoke arms, and a body defining an axis. The body includes a first plurality of bushings connected to the plurality of first yoke arms, a second plurality of bushings connected to the plurality of second yoke arms, and a plurality of tensile members connecting the first plurality of bushings with the second plurality of bushings. Each of the first plurality of bushings has a groove formed in an outer surface thereof that receives one of the plurality of tensile members. Thus, as discussed during the interview, it is believed that independent Claim 31, and dependent Claims 32 through 38, are patentable over the art of record.

New independent Claim 39 defines the invention as a coupling including the limitations of both independent Claim 23 and independent Claim 31. Thus, as discussed during the interview, it is believed that independent Claim 39, and dependent Claims 40 through 42, are patentable over the art of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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